

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1

The Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶1, in view of its requirement for "said first data line being coupled, at a second side thereof, to said respective signal line of said amplifier block". The claim has been amended as shown above to insert an erroneously omitted word. The claim now requires the first data line be coupled, at its second side, to the signal line of the last amplifier block (see line 8). This claim amendment is respectfully submitted not to be new matter because it is supported at least in the exemplary embodiment shown in Fig. 1, in which a first side of a data line (e.g., DB11/DB12) is coupled to a signal line of a first amplifier block (e.g., SSA21) and a second side of the data line is coupled to a signal line of last amplifier block (e.g. SSA22). In view of the above-identified amendment to claim 20, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2

The Examiner rejected claims 2, 4-11, and 15-18 under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2 in view of certain informalities in claims 2, 4, 9/8/4, and 15/12. Applicant has amended each of the foregoing four claims in a self-explanatory manner which is respectfully submitted to clearly remove any possible indefiniteness.

In claim 2, please see line 24. In claim 4, please see line 22 ("lines" changed to --line--). In claim 9, please see line 8 ("block" changed to --blocks--). In claim 15, please see lines 3 and 4 ("cell" changed to --cells--).

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection of claims 2, 4-11, and 15-18 in view of these amendments.

Claims indicated as being allowable

The Examiner stated that non-allowed claims would be allowable if the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 could be overcome. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 have been overcome by virtue of the above claim amendments. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests of the Examiner the allowance of claims 2, 4-11, 15-18, and 20.

Conclusion and request for telephone interview:

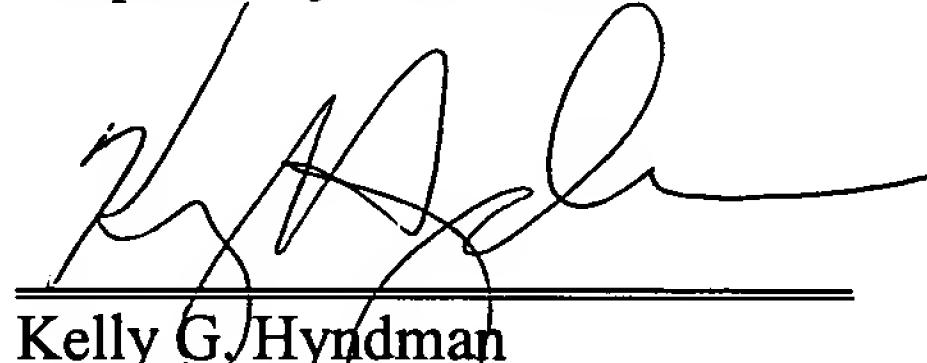
Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to find the application now to be in condition for allowance with claims 1-20. However, if the Examiner feels that the application is

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not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Applicant files herewith a Petition (with payment) for an Extension of Time of three months, and also submits herewith the original patent for application 5,444,305. Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the Issue Fee, is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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